Title: COMPOUNDS FOR NOVEL PROTON CONDUCTING MEMBRANES (AS AMENDED)

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A compound comprising: $H_xCs_{(4-x)}Ge_4S_{10}\ yH_2S\ zH_2O,\ H_xRb_{(4-x)}Ge_4S_{10}\ zH_2O\ or\ H_xK_{(4-x)}Ge_4S_{10}\ zH_2O,$ wherein

$$0 \le x \le 4$$
;
 $0 \le y \le 1$; and
 $z \ge 0$.

- 2. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein x = 4.
- 3. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein z = 0.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 3 comprising a compound having a double-decker structural unit unit.
- 5. (Original) The compound of claim 4 wherein the double-decker compound is $H_2Ge_4S_9$.
- 6. (Original) The compound of claim 3 comprising a compound having an adamantanelike structural unit.
- 7. (Original) The compound of claim 6 wherein the adamantane-like compound is $H_4Ge_4S_{10}$.
- 8. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein z > 0.

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- 9. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 8 comprising a compound having a double-decker structural unit-unit.
- 10. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein the double-decker compound is $H_4Ge_4S_{10}$ x H_2O wherein 0 < x < 9.
- 11. (Original) The compound of claim 8 comprising a compound having an adamantanelike structural unit.
- 12. (Original) The compound of claim 11 wherein the adamante compound is $H_4Ge_4S_{10} \times H_2O$ wherein 0 < x < 9.
- 13. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein the proton conductivity is between about 10^{-8} S/cm and 10^{-1} S/cm within a temperature range of between about -50 and 500 °C.

Claims 14-35 (Canceled).